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St. Petersburg, and the Mortality Statistics under Dr. J. Bertillon, Chief of the Statistical Bureau of Paris. The former of these will probably not be issued as frequently as hitherto. To Mr. Körösi, for his laborious pioneer work, is due great credit and the thanks of all investigators and students in this field. The following tables are given: Receipts of municipalities; extraordinary receipts, expenses; direct and indirect taxes; expenses of police; cleaning streets; lighting; fire departments; schools; public charity; streets; constructing new streets; interest on and funding the debt, and pensions. In every case the per capita computation is given. In addition, totals are given with notes and remarks.

PRICE STATISTICS.

In its issue of Jan. 3 1891, the *London Economist* exhibits the movement in the price of commodities and compares the "index number" in December of successive years. The figures are:—

December, 1885,	2023
“ 1886,	2059
“ 1887,	2230
“ 1888,	2187
“ 1889,	2248
“ 1890,	2241

The general level of price therefore is seen to be but slightly lower at the close of the year than at the beginning. There is a decline in prices of raw material for textile manufactures, and a rise in the prices of food products, including tea and coffee.

In a statistical pamphlet entitled *Our Commercial Barometer for the year 1890* (Imperial Federation League. London. 1891. Pp. 44), Sir Rawson W. Rawson, after analyzing the commercial changes, month by month, for Great Britain, discusses the value of the calculation of average prices drawn from the tonnage of vessels entering and clearing with cargoes, and the total value of imports and exports. He also submits a table showing the fluctuation of prices by an index number since 1881. His method differs from that of Mr. Sauerbeck in embracing in his estimate a far larger number of commodities. Mr. Sauerbeck derives his index numbers from the average prices of 45

principal commodities. The comparison of the two series of index numbers is seen in the following table:—

Years.	Sauerbeck.	Rawson.	Sauerbeck.	Rawson.
1867-77	100	100	Annual Increase or Decrease.	
1881	85	83
1882	84	81	—1	—2
1883	82	78	—2	—3
1884	76	76	—6	—2
1885	72	69	—4	—7
1886	69	68	—3	—1
1887	68	68	—1	Nil
1888	70	69	+2	+1
1889	72	71	+2	+2
1890	72	71	Nil	Nil

MINOR NOTICES.

Three Papers read before the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science. By Henry Heyleyn Hayter, Government Statist of Victoria. Melbourne. 1890. Pp. 37.

The subjects of these papers are Official Statistics (1888); The Coming Towns (1890); and Our Meat Supply (1890). In Mr. Hayter's opinion, no more than five days should ever be allowed to the taking of a census; nor should more than five years elapse between two censuses. After a discussion of the nature of the different schedules, criticism is made of the returns of the state revenue and expenditure. In Australia it appears that "refunds, drawbacks, advances to be recouped and recoups of such advances are mixed up with the statements, so that both revenue and expenditure appear to be much larger than they really are." A protest is entered against all such cross entries. It is also asserted that the customs returns of imports are considerably overstated. It appears to be difficult to ascertain the actual rate of interest Australia is paying for borrowed money. Criticism is offered of the emigration statistics, as well as of the registration of births.

Upon the subject of *Meat Supply* the author opposes the view that there is any danger of a lack in the supply of meat. Mr. Coghlan,